

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 08, 2023

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Crane(13), Vice Chairman Young, Representatives Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Scott, Andrus, Skaug, Alfieri, Allgood, Crane(12), Gannon, Green

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Crane (13) called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

MOTION: **Rep. Allgood** made a motion to approve the minutes from March 3, 2023. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30587: **Rep. Hill** presented **RS 30587**, proposed legislation prohibiting credit card companies from assigning a unique credit card code to firearms purchases in Idaho. Rep. Hill stated **RS 30587** allows the Attorney General to investigate and pursue an injunction which may end in a civil penalty.

MOTION: **Rep. Crane (12)** made a motion to introduce **RS 30587**.

MOTION WITHDRAWN: **Rep. Crane (12)** asked unanimous consent to withdraw his original motion to introduce **RS 30587**. There being no objection, the request was granted.

MOTION: **Rep. Young** made a motion to introduce **RS 30587** with the following change: On Page 4, Line 15, change "for" to "from". **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30573: **Rep. Andrus** presented **RS 30573**, proposed legislation ensuring necessary and factual information is included for bond and levy advertising.

MOTION: **Rep. Scott** made a motion to introduce **RS 30573**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30564: **Ken Burgess**, Idaho Association of Home Builders, presented **RS 30564**, proposed legislation clarifying the intent of the Legislature to prohibit local jurisdictions from adopting energy conservation codes that differ from or are more extensive than those in Idaho Code 39-9701.

MOTION: **Rep. Palmer** made a motion to introduce **RS 30564**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 240: **Rep. Picket** presented **H 240**, legislation to allow any duly elected school district trustee to serve out their remaining term even though a change in the trustee's zone boundaries occurred after they were elected.

Hailie Johnson, testified in support of **H 240**.

MOTION: **Rep. Skaug** made a motion to send **H 240** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Picket** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 273: **Rep. Andrus** presented **H 273**, legislation giving citizens another option to address their rising property taxes by allowing them the ability to use the referendum process to address local budgets.

Kelley Packer, Association of Idaho Cities, testified **in opposition** of **H 273**, stating cities hold multiple meetings a year, publish two notices and hold a budget hearing to inform residents and address their concerns. Ms. Packer stated this legislation does not address several items and is not needed.

Russ Hendricks, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, testified **in support** of **H 273** stating a new and different approach is needed to address property taxes. Mr. Hendricks stated this legislation levels the playing field by empowering taxpayers to use the referendum process at the local level when needed and will lead to greater collaboration between residents and their local government.

Seth Grigg, Idaho Association of Counties, testified **in opposition** of **H 273**. Mr. Grigg cited a court case that ruled it is not lawful to apply the referendum process to the county budget. The referendum process is given to citizens to address laws. The budget process is not law and, therefore, it is not appropriate to apply to the county budget process.

Michael Hon testified **in support** of **H 273**, stating citizens have very little control over taxes and this legislation adds a tool for citizens to use when disputing and challenging budgets.

Rep. Andrus presented closing testimony on **H 273**, stating this legislation allows the referendum process to be statutorily provided for, thereby making it a legal process to challenge budgets.

MOTION:

Rep. Barbieri made a motion to send **H 273** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

In support of the motion, **Rep. Barbieri** stated statutorily empowering tax payers to leverage their concerns is powerful. **Rep. Skaug** remarked the state's budget should be looked at as closely as counties' and cities' budgets because the state's budget is increasing at a faster rate. **Rep. Young** clarified the state only has a few options available to address property taxes and this legislation empowers residents.

In opposition of the motion, **Rep. Allgood** expressed his concern that emergency services will be affected if budgets are reduced and indicated the shift between commercial and residential property tax needs to be addressed.

**VOTE ON
MOTION:**

Chairman Crane (13) called for a vote on the motion to send **H 273** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Andrus** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:04 A.M.

Representative Crane (13)
Chair

Lisa Hendricks
Secretary